



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Chairman
Mike Marelli

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

6:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Marelli at 6:34 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Commissioner Roberta Levandoski
Commissioner James Harwood
Commissioner David Holdridge
Commissioner Betsy Graham
Commissioner Michael E. Marelli
Alternate Member Dave Cohen

Excused Commissioner Kathleen Edgecomb
Commissioner Barbara Kil

Dave Cohen was appointed as a voting member.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from June 11, 2024, as written.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Betsy Graham

SECONDER: David Holdridge

AYE 6 Levandoski Harwood Holdridge Graham Marelli Cohen

EXCUSED 2 Edgecomb Kil

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence.

None.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Public Comments.

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**1. Informational Items.**

Sweet Water Meadow Farm - Chairman Marelli gave an update on the Sweet Water Meadow Farmland development update. He reviewed the newly submitted plans and reported that there will be 4 buildings with 80 units in each one making a total of 320 units. The only part of the development that pertains to conservation is that behind the units is wetlands. This area is from Smith Brook to Smith Farm to Smith Cove (on the Southeastern side). Chairman Marelli said all runoff from the development's roofs and parking lots will go into an onsite treatment center. In other words, the water will not run into storm drains, wetlands or the river. There will be a Planning & Zoning meeting held on August 6, 2024, for public comments. Chairman Marelli said there will also be a large repairing buffer between the hardscape and the wetlands. Ms. Robinson asked if Smith Brook/Pond and Cranberry Brook/Pond are one in the same. Chairman Marelli confirmed that they are.

100 Stoddards Wharf Road - a new plan was submitted for 18 houses on three lots.

Glacier Park - new direction signs were put into place by Mr. Cohen.

Cashman stated that their plan is not to build a quarry but rather an excavation site, which is allowed in Ledyard.

Farmers market - the Commission received an invitation for the market on Wednesday July 10, 2024. A Community relations tent will be set up to answer any questions regarding Town Commissions/Committees/Boards. A representative from the Commission was requested. Chairman Marelli said he will attend the market.

Chairman Marelli will be meeting with State Forester, Eric Hansen to look at cost sharing and trail coordination with the Burton and Pike-Marshall properties.

Chairman Marelli said that DEEP reported that there may potentially be a dam removal on Trading Cove Pond/Brook in Montville.

Ms. Graham said on July 10, 2024, there will be a three-hour DEEP boat launch training for volunteers. She added that there was a combined Ledyard and North Stonington Park & Recreation program that included kayaking and learning about invasive plants.

DEEP & Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) is looking for sites in Southeastern Connecticut/Long Island Sound to qualify for available funding. Water pollution from impaired septic systems and sewer treatment systems does not qualify since that would fall under the Clean Water Act. Improvements to impaired infrastructure such as storm water, tidal flushing, salt marsh, fishway, shellfish sites, and culvert projects may qualify. The due date is July 12.

The Lantern Hill Valley Alliance is now in the process of applying for a 501c3.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Property Walks.

Burton - Chairman Marelli and Mr. Cohen cleared the blue trail but the yellow trail needs additional work. There are two large trees down on the trails which will require at least two people working at the site, for safety reasons.

Glacier - Chairman Marelli said the Glacier parking lot needed brush clearing from around the signs, the parking area and the path. Chairman Marelli and Mr. Cohen took care of it.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Financial Reports.

No changes since last month, the recent POs have not been reflected in the reports yet.

3. Pollinator Pathways Project continued.

Request for planting funds must be available before September 1, 2024.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

4. Field clearing at White-Hall Property.

No new information.

5. Areas of interest and goals for 2024 continued.

No comments.

6. Any Other Old Business to come before the Commission.

None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Review and Discussion of SCCOG Open Spaces Plan Draft continued.

The Regional Open Space Plan from SECOG - Their survey response period was extended. A discussion on responding to their survey was held. Members will review the plan and prioritize individual responses for the August meeting. One document to represent the Commission will be submitted. The survey contained a list of 15 items to be prioritized into top five, middle five and the last five. Ms. Graham will call to find out the deadline for submittal and to ask if they will accept the Commission's submittal in August.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Any Other New Business to come before the Commission.
None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 7:26 p.m.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: David Holdridge

SECONDER: Betsy Graham

AYE 6 Levandoski Harwood Holdridge Graham Marelli Cohen

EXCUSED 2 Edgecomb Kil

DISCLAIMER: Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.